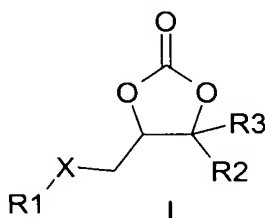


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-20 (Canceled)

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): An alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates of the formula I



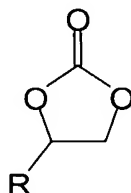
in which the symbols X, R¹, R² and R³ have the following meanings:

R¹ is an unsubstituted C₃-C₂₉-alkyl group or an unsubstituted C₃-C₂₉-alkenyl group, wherein the substituent R¹ has an average degree of branching which is defined as (number of methyl groups per molecule)-1 of from 0.2 to 1.6;

R² and R³, independently of one another, are hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group;

X is selected from the group consisting of O, O(CH₂CHR⁴O)_n, S, NR⁵, COO and CONH, in which R⁴ and R⁵ are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl or propyl, and n is a number from 1 to 5, ~~where mixtures of compounds with groups X of the formula O(CH₂CHR⁴O)_n are also included by the formula I, in which n has various numerical values,~~

wherein alkylglycidol carbonates of formula



wherein R is CH₂--O--CH(CH₃)₂ are excluded.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 21, wherein in formula I the symbols X, R¹, R² and R³ have the following meanings:

R¹ is a C₃-C₁₈-alkyl group or a C₃-C₁₈-alkenyl group;

R² and R³, independently of one another are hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms; and

X is O, O(CH₂CHR⁴O)_n or NR⁵, in which R⁴ and R⁵ are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl or propyl and n is a number from 1 to 5, ~~where mixtures of compounds with groups X of the formula O(CH₂CHR⁴O)_n are covered by the formula I, in which n can have various numerical values.~~

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 21, wherein

R¹ is a C₅-C₁₈-alkyl group or a C₅-C₁₈-alkenyl; and

at least one of the radicals R² or R³ is hydrogen.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 21, wherein R² and R³ are hydrogen.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 24, wherein R¹--X is C₅H₁₁CH(C₃H₇)CH₂O, or a radical based on a technical-grade C₁₃-C₁₅-oxo alcohol or a technical-grade or native C₁₂-C₁₄-alcohol or a C₁₀- or C₁₃-alcohol and having a degree of branching of about 1.5.

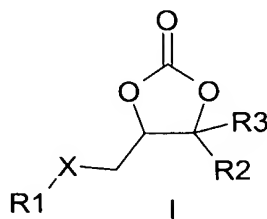
Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 25, in which R^1-X is

$C_5H_{11}CH(C_3H_7)CH_2O$, and which are present as a mixture, in which

70 to 99% by weight of compounds in which C_5H_{11} has the meaning $n-C_5H_{11}$ are present and

1 to 30% by weight of compounds in which C_5H_{11} has the meaning $C_2H_5CH(CH_3)CH_2$ and/or $CH_3CH(CH_3)CH_2CH_2$ are present.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): An alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates of the formula I



in which the symbols X, R^1 , R^2 and R^3 have the following meanings:

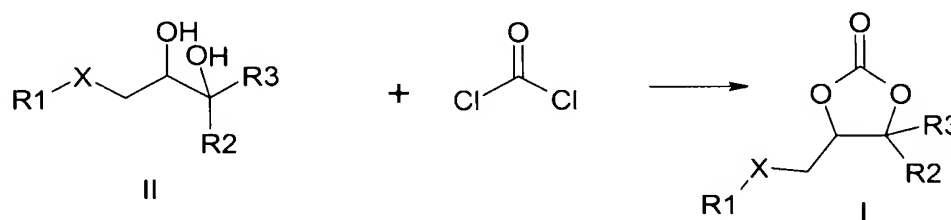
R^1 is an unsubstituted C_3 - C_{29} -alkyl group or an unsubstituted C_3 - C_{29} -alkenyl group, wherein the substituent R^1 has an average degree of branching which is defined as (number of methyl groups per molecule)-1 of from 0.2 to 1.6;

R^2 and R^3 , independently of one another, are hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group;

X is chosen from the group consisting of $O(CH_2CHR^4O)_n$, S, NR^5 and CONH, in which R^4 and R^5 are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl or propyl, and n is a number from 1 to 5, ~~where mixtures of compounds with groups X of the formula $O(CH_2CHR^4O)_n$ are also included by the formula I, in which n has various numerical values.~~

Claim 28 (Cancelled)

Claim 29 (Withdrawn – Currently Amended): A method for producing the alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 21, comprising reacting 1,2-diols of the formula II and functionalized with an R^1-X-CH_2 group with phosgene in accordance with the following reaction scheme:



in which the symbols X, R^1 , R^2 and R^3 have the following meanings:

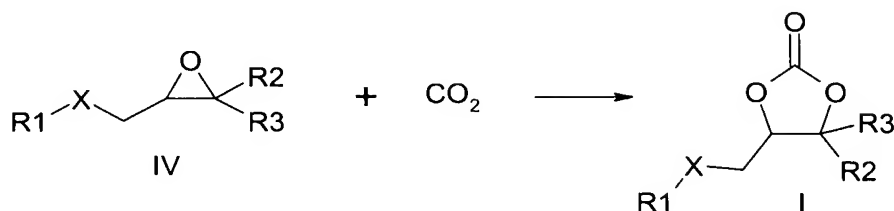
R^1 is an unsubstituted C_3 - C_{29} -alkyl group or an unsubstituted C_3 - C_{29} -alkenyl group, wherein the substituent R^1 has an average degree of branching which is defined as (number of methyl groups per molecule)-1 of from 0.2 to 1.6;

R^2 and R^3 , independently of one another, are hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group;

X is selected from the group consisting of O, $O(CH_2CHR^4O)_n$, S, NR^5 , COO and CONH, in which R^4 and R^5 are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl or propyl, and n is a number from 1 to 5, ~~where mixtures of compounds with groups X of the formula $O(CH_2CHR^4O)_n$ are also included by the formula I, in which n has various numerical values.~~

Claim 30 (Withdrawn – Currently Amended): A method for producing the alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in

claim 21, comprising reacting epoxides of the formula IV according to the following reaction scheme with CO₂ using a catalyst:



in which the symbols X, R¹, R² and R³ have the following meanings:

R¹ is an unsubstituted C₃-C₂₉-alkyl group or an unsubstituted C₃-C₂₉-alkenyl group, wherein the substituent R¹ has an average degree of branching which is defined as (number of methyl groups per molecule)-1 of from 0.2 to 1.6;

R² and R³, independently of one another, are hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group;

X is selected from the group consisting of O, O(CH₂CHR⁴O)_n, S, NR⁵, COO and CONH, in which R⁴ and R⁵ are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl or propyl, and n is a number from 1 to 5, ~~where mixtures of compounds with groups X of the formula O(CH₂CHR⁴O)_n are also included by the formula I, in which n has various numerical values.~~

Claim 31 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the epoxide of the formula IV is produced by reacting epichlorohydrin with suitable alcohols, thiols, alcohols reacted with alkylene oxides, amines, carboxylic acids, their esters or their carboxamides and subsequent or simultaneous elimination of HCl.

Claim 32 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the suitable alcohols, thiols, alcohols reacted with alkylene oxides, amines, carboxylic acids or their esters or carboxamides are chosen from aliphatic C₃-C₂₉-alcohols with an average degree of

branching which is defined as (number of methyl groups per molecule)-1 of from 0.2 to 1.6, where the alkyl chain can have further substituents which increase the suitability of the molecule as cosurfactant, but at least do not negatively influence it, Guerbet alcohols and their unsaturated analogs, and the substituted thiols corresponding to the suitable alcohols, alcohols reacted with alkylene oxides, amines, carboxylic acids and their carboxamides.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A detergent, household cleaner, body-cleansing composition or bodycare composition comprising the alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 21.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A detergent as claimed in claim 33 in solid, liquid, gel or paste form.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A detergent as claimed in claim 33, comprising 0.1 to 40% by weight based on the total amount of the formulation, of at least one alkylglycidol carbonate.

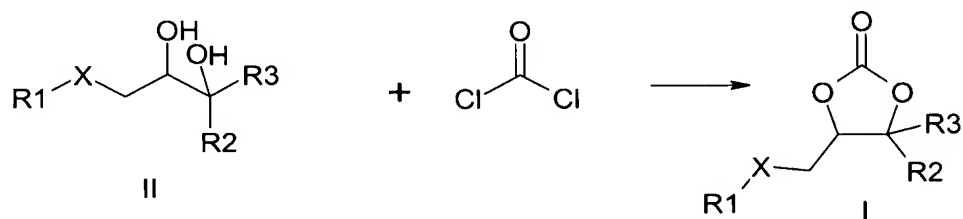
Claim 36 (Previously Presented): A household cleaner as claimed in claim 33 in liquid, gel or solid form.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): A household cleaner as claimed in claim 36 in the form of a hand dishwashing detergent, machine dishwashing detergent, metal degreaser, glass cleaner, floor cleaner, all-purpose cleaner, high-pressure cleaner, alkaline cleaner, acidic cleaner, spray degreaser, dairy cleaner, upholstery cleaner, plastic cleaner and bathroom cleaner.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): A household cleaner as claimed in claim 36, comprising 0.01 to 40% by weight based on the total formulation, of at least one alkylglycidol carbonate.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): A body-cleansing composition or bodycare composition in the form of a shampoo, shower or bath gel, shower or bath lotion, a lipstick, a cosmetic formulation with care and/or conditioning properties or a styling product, a liquid soap, a care cream, a hair foam, hair gel, hair spray or after-treatment composition, a hair tonic, a lotion, treatment rinse, treatment pack, a split-end fluid, hair repair composition, hot oil treatment, hair-setting composition, hair colorant or permanent waving agent, comprising the alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 21.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn – Currently Amended): A method for producing the alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 27, comprising reacting 1,2-diols of the formula II and functionalized with an R^1 --X--CH₂ group with phosgene in accordance with the following reaction scheme:



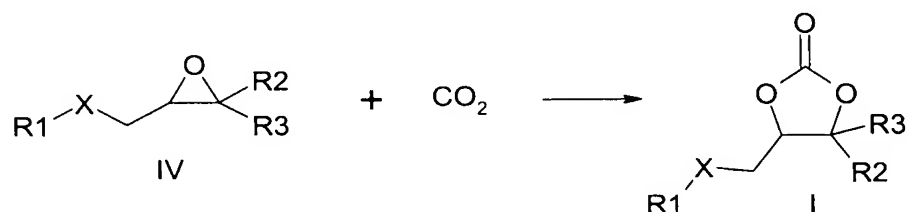
in which the symbols X, R^1 , R^2 and R^3 have the following meanings:

R^1 is an unsubstituted C_3 - C_{29} -alkyl group or an unsubstituted C_3 - C_{29} -alkenyl group, wherein the substituent R^1 has an average degree of branching which is defined as (number of methyl groups per molecule)-1 of from 0.2 to 1.6;

R^2 and R^3 , independently of one another, are hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group;

X is selected from the group consisting of O, $O(CH_2CHR^4O)_n$, S, NR^5 , COO and CONH, in which R^4 and R^5 are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl or propyl, and n is a number from 1 to 5, ~~where mixtures of compounds with groups X of the formula $O(CH_2CHR^4O)_n$ are also included by the formula I, in which n has various numerical values.~~

Claim 41 (Withdrawn – Currently Amended): A method for producing the alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 27, comprising reacting epoxides of the formula IV according to the following reaction scheme with CO_2 using a catalyst:



in which the symbols X, R^1 , R^2 and R^3 have the following meanings:

R^1 is an unsubstituted C_3 - C_{29} -alkyl group or an unsubstituted C_3 - C_{29} -alkenyl group, wherein the substituent R^1 has an average degree of branching which is defined as (number of methyl groups per molecule)-1 of from 0.2 to 1.6;

R^2 and R^3 , independently of one another, are hydrogen or a linear or branched alkyl group;

X is selected from the group consisting of O, $O(CH_2CHR^4O)_n$, S, NR^5 , COO and CONH, in which R^4 and R^5 are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl or propyl, and n is a number from 1 to 5, ~~where mixtures of compounds with groups X of the formula $O(CH_2CHR^4O)_n$ are also included by the formula I, in which n has various numerical values.~~

Claim 42 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the epoxide of the formula IV is produced by reacting epichlorohydrin with suitable alcohols, thiols, alcohols reacted with alkylene oxides, amines, carboxylic acids, their esters or their carboxamides and subsequent or simultaneous elimination of HCl.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 42, wherein the suitable alcohols, thiols, alcohols reacted with alkylene oxides, amines, carboxylic acids or their esters or carboxamides are chosen from aliphatic C_3 - C_{29} -alcohols with an average degree of branching which is defined as (number of methyl groups per molecule)-1 of from 1.2 to 1.6, where the alkyl chain can have further substituents which increase the suitability of the molecule as cosurfactant, but at least do not negatively influence it, Guerbet alcohols and their unsaturated analogs, and the substituted thiols corresponding to the suitable alcohols, alcohols reacted with alkylene oxides, amines, carboxylic acids and their carboxamides.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): A detergent, household cleaner, body-cleansing composition or bodycare composition comprising the alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 27.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): A detergent as claimed in claim 44 in solid, liquid, gel or paste form.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): A detergent as claimed in claim 44, comprising 0.1 to 40% by weight, based on the total amount of the formulation, of at least one alkylglycidol carbonate.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): A household cleaner as claimed in claim 44 in liquid, gel or solid form.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): A household cleaner as claimed in claim 47 in the form of a hand dishwashing detergent, machine dishwashing detergent, metal degreaser, glass cleaner, floor cleaner, all-purpose cleaner, high-pressure cleaner, alkaline cleaner, acidic cleaner, spray degreaser, dairy cleaner, upholstery cleaner, plastic cleaner and bathroom cleaner.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): A household cleaner as claimed in claim 47, comprising 0.01 to 40% by weight, preferably 0.1 to 25% by weight, based on the total formulation, of at least one alkylglycidol carbonate.

Claim 50 (Previously Presented): A body-cleansing composition or bodycare composition in the form of a shampoo, shower or bath gel, shower or bath lotion, a lipstick, a cosmetic formulation with care and/or conditioning properties or a styling product, a liquid soap, a care cream, a hair foam, hair gel, hair spray or after-treatment composition, a hair tonic, a lotion, treatment rinse, treatment pack, a split-end fluid, hair repair composition, hot oil treatment, hair-setting composition, hair colorant or permanent waving agent, comprising

the alkylglycidol carbonate or mixture of two or more alkylglycidol carbonates as claimed in claim 27.

Claim 51 (Previously Presented): A detergent as claimed in claim 33, wherein said detergent is in the form of a powder, compact, granules, tablet or gel.

Claim 52 (Previously Presented): A detergent as claimed in claim 33, comprising 0.5 to 30% by weight based on the total amount of the formulation, of at least one alkylglycidol carbonate.

Claim 53 (Previously Presented): A detergent as claimed in claim 33, comprising 1 to 20% by weight based on the total amount of the formulation, of at least one alkylglycidol carbonate.

Claim 54 (Previously Presented): A household cleaner as claimed in claim 33, wherein said household cleaner is in the form of a liquid, gel, powder or compact.

Claim 55 (Previously Presented): A detergent as claimed in claim 44, wherein said detergent is in the form of a powder, compact, granules, tablet or gel.

Claim 56 (Previously Presented): A detergent as claimed in claim 44, comprising 0.5 to 30% by weight based on the total amount of the formulation, of at least one alkylglycidol carbonate.

Claim 57 (Previously Presented): A detergent as claimed in claim 44, comprising 1 to 20% by weight based on the total amount of the formulation, of at least one alkylglycidol carbonate.

Claim 58 (Previously Presented): A household cleaner as claimed in claim 44, wherein said household cleaner is in the form of a liquid gel powder or compact.

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): A household cleaner as claimed in claim 36, comprising 0.1 to 25% by weight based on the total formulation, of at least one alkylglycidol carbonate.